

Penzer

BOARD OF EDUCATION - CITY OF NEW YORK  
**STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL**  
345 EAST 15th STREET  
NEW YORK 3, N. Y. OREGON 3-9030  
LEONARD J. FLIEDNER, Principal

Dec 27, 1958

Dear Josh.

Thanks for your new year greetings. At the risk of being guilty of uttering an overworked cliché, "The rewards that come to teachers are most welcome and enduring when friendship and appreciation are voiced by former students."

In your case it is particularly welcome, since you have been so popular a subject of conversation both in my classes and in the Science Societies which I frequent. I listened to Dr. Zinder of Rockefeller Institute a little while ago. It staggers my imagination to transfer my thinking from Mendelian genetics to the biochemical aspects of the Genetics of Bacteria. Dr. Zinder's attempt at explaining how linkage groups were determined in *E. coli* and other organisms sent me rapidly to your papers from which I noted he had quoted in large measure.

It may interest you to learn that in my conver-

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PENZER, A.

sations with former students fresh out of medical  
Schools and colleges ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> (-Belleone in particular-) experi-  
ments are routinely conducted which involve placing  
dried viral material on profuse growth of E. Coli  
in petri dishes and noting mutational effects.

The Stuyvesant Alumni Organization, a very  
large and impressive group - numbering among its active  
members Marcus Kugel, former N.Y. Commissioner of Hospitals,  
now head of Albert Einstein Medical School; Superintendent of  
N.Y.C. school system ~~John~~ Theobald - many U.S. Congressmen  
many administrators and faculty of many colleges and  
medical schools - is very anxious to have you appear  
at their annual affair late in May 1959. I know  
they have written and made their request. I don't know  
what answer you sent but I merely reinforce their  
invitation and indicate to you how strong and influential  
this organization has become.

I trust this letter arrives at a time when  
the stresses and excitement of the last few months  
have somewhat abated and that you and your  
wife (family?) have been able to resume the  
leisurely pace of campus living.

Best wishes. Sincerely,  
Abraham Benzer